

Route 12
Frederick, Md. 21701
August 25, 1975

Carl Oglesby
The Boston Phoenix
Boston, Mass.

Dear Cowboy-of-the-trusting-minds, Boston branch:

When I told Yazijian he wasn't even a good crook, I was not aware that it applied to all you AIB ripoff artists.

I thought some of you, being possessed of self-imagined unique genius, merely made it up. For profit, this is to say, the reason for the thievery.

Ripping off of the pocket, in my old-fashioned view, is less unethical than ripping off the mind.

I thus regard plagiarism, no matter how disguised, as ^{no} less immoral than robbing banks, Or pockets.

Your 8/12 reports your AIB's FOIA alleged request of the CIA. In part, it brings me joy, Assuming your reporting is not incompetent the legal effort is. Either is joyous, both ecstasy.

You credit your inspiration to what you say was "brought to public attention by Professor Josiah Thompson of Haverford College, author of Six Seconds in Dallas."

By the time my third book came out there wasn't enough time for Tink to plagiarize it, too. Commercial publishing has a six-month spread. I gave him only four.

However, he was not grossly negligent. What he credits to "according to a document recently discovered in the Archives" he "discovered" in WHITEWASH II: THE FBI-SECRET SERVICE COVERUP.

Enclosed is page 143 of PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH.

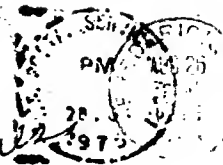
It provides what I told Yazijian, that he isn't even a good crook. You quote him as pontificating a partial plagiarist, the crack in my footnote, "There is only one thing to be learned from the film and that is how to murder the head of a state." He read too hastily, for the footnote reads, "To train assassins? Or to teach them how not to get caught?" (The film does neither.)

I am aware of the AIB's lack of concern about getting caught. Were it with principle, it could not make money commercializing the work of others it corrupts. (Where corruption is necessary to your purposes.)

I am also a bit curious. The Freedom of Information law was effective when I - that is to say Professor Thompson - "brought" this to "public attention." Why did you of the AIB wait eight years to make an effort? Couldn't be more commercializing what Williams described as your "gig," could it? Now that everybody else is doing it, a few seriously, you for commercial sale?

Harold Weisberg

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